[21st February 1948

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know why no provision has been made for that apparatus in the Vizagapatam Hospital?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The question of providing that apparatus is under consideration. The hon. Member may kindly wait for the budget."

Condition of the Teppakulam tank at Trichinopoly.

* 10 *Q.*—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Teppakulam tank at Trichinopoly in its present filthy condition, constitutes a potential danger to public health;

(*b*) whether any scheme had been prepared for circulating fresh water in the tank and converting it into a place of public attraction;

(*c*) if so, what are the details of the scheme; and

(*d*) how soon will the scheme be taken on hand for execution?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) A scheme has been prepared by the Municipal Health Officer.

" (*c*) Two alternative remedies have been suggested. One is to construct a closed conduit channel replacing the present open channel and to avoid the tanks through which the present channel runs. The second scheme is to abandon the present inlet channel and source, and to pump up the water from the Cauvery near about the Chintamani Cauvery bridge and to bring in the water through pipes to the Teppakulam along the shortest route from the Cauvery bridge. Both the schemes require detailed investigation.

" (*d*) The Teppakulam tank is the property of the Rock Fort Devasthanam. The Municipal Council has agreed to take over the tank under its control with the consent of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board. A draft agreement in this regard is under scrutiny by the Legal Adviser of the Municipal Council. After the execution of the agreement, steps will be taken by the Municipal Council to work out the details of the scheme and to execute it."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I know whether the Teppakulam tank now serves the object for which it was created?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I am not aware of the objects for which it was constructed." (Laughter.)

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" Will Government undertake a survey of all such ancient tanks in the province so that they may be renovated and repaired?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The fact is the tank adds to the beauty of the town and whoever devised the tank were very wise people, because the tank adds to the

amenities of the city. The Rock Fort and the tank together form one of the beauty spots of Trichinopoly, and I am sure it will be maintained."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Is it not possible to keep the beauty spot of the town and at the same time remove the danger to the public health of the city? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The matter is under examination, as the Hon. Minister informed just now, and as soon as a settlement is being arrived at the whole thing will be looked into and proper sanitary conditions will be restored."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member wants the tank to be filled up and the place used as a park."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" No, I believe the Hon. Minister mentioned some other scheme."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The scheme is not to close it up. The dispute is between the municipality and the temple which owns it. After an agreement has been reached, steps will be taken to maintain the tank in a sanitary condition."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I know, Sir, whether the tank is a religious institution or a secular institution? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It does not matter what the nature of the institution is as long as it adds to the beauty of the town." (Laughter.)

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Has the municipality funds to carry out the scheme? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Evidently they have funds; otherwise they would not have entered into agreement with the Endowments Board."

[*Note*.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce to the House that the following candidates were nominated for election to the House Committee :—

(1) Sri B. Bhima Rao.
(2) Sri H. M. Jagannatham.
(3) Dr. Syed Tajuddin Sahib.
(4) Sri L. Subbarama Reddi.
(5) Mrs. Mona Hensman.
(6) Sri C. Perumalswami Reddiyar.
(7) Mrs. M. N. Clubwala.

Sri L. Subbarama Reddi has since withdrawn his candidature. As the number of candidates now remaining is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, namely, six, I hereby declare them to have been duly elected to the House Committee.